

IN THE ABSTRACT

Please substitute the following Abstract for the Abstract contained in the application.

---Abstract of the Disclosure

As a cooling mechanism that cools the entire paper passage area of a heat-producing belt, a rotational drive method of the heat-producing belt is employed and the heat-producing belt is cooled by rotational cooling by being made to idle when paper is not being passed through. An excitation apparatus and the above-described cooling mechanism are controlled so that recording paper is not passed through and the heat-producing belt is cooled while being heated over the heating width when the small-size recording paper is passed through until the temperature detected by a paper non-passage area temperature detecting sensor is at or below a predetermined fixing temperature. This fixing apparatus enables an excessive rise in temperature of a paper non-passage area of the heat-producing belt to be efficiently eliminated, and the temperature distribution of heat-producing belt to be made uniform in a short time.---